(c) by when this plant is likely to be commissioned; and

(d) whether Government have approved other projects for harnessing energy from sea waves; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) As per the findings of the Techno-economic Feasibility Report prepared by the Central Electricity Authority, the Tidal Power Project in the Gulf of Kutch near Kandla is feasible. The project envisages an installation of 900 MW, comprising 36 units of 25 MW each.

(b) The project is expected to generate 1690 million units annually. The cost of generation has been estimated as 90 paise/ unit which is comparable with the conventional gas based and coal based 210 MW load centre located units.

(c) The project can be implemented after the investment decision and detailing of the design and construction features.

(d) Work to harness energy from sea waves, as distinct from tidal energy, is still at an experimental stage. The Deptt. of Ocean Development and the Deptt. of Non-conventional Energy Sources have sponsored experimental projects with a view to developing the technique for harnessing wave energy for generation of Power.

Import of crystalline silicon technology

£3567. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that negotiations are going on for the collaborative venture involving a British Company for the supply of Crystalline Silicon technology to India;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard, and

(c) whether it is a fact that some Government undertakings have opopsed the import of this technology as this technology is available in India and if so, what are the details in this regard and what are the names of undertakings which have been consulted and have opposed for such imports?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) No import of crystalline silicon technology for the manufacture of solar cells is involved in the venture between an Indian Company and a British Company which was considered recently by the Project Approval Board, Ministry of Industry.

(c) The views of all public sector units involved in the field are taken into account in such cases.

Separate port for import of polymers

£3568. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRI E. BALANANDAN:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of polymers to meet their present requirements due to inadequate port facilities;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to construct a separate port with modern facilities, on the Western Coast, for importing polymers; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) To handle petrochemicals raw material, Government is considering to set up the

£Previously Unstarred Question 2826, transferred from the 18th August, 1988.

£Previously Unstarred Question 2559, transferred from the 17th August, 1988.